

## The Servants Opposition Mark 3:20-30

I'm not a golfer, but when you play a sport I went to look across from me and see the opponent staring back at me. The Christian life is very much like a team sport. You are not simply trying to improve your score and better your walk with the Lord, there is very much an enemy. An opposition that is directly working against you in your journey home. In chapter 3 we have seen the servant weighed down by the pressures of tradition and the load of labor but now we see him confronted with opposition. This is to be expected in our life as well. In 15:18 if the world hate you know that it hates me before it hates you. The servant is no greater than their master, if they persecuted me they will persecute you. Every servant will encounter opposition in the service of the Lord, and this text prepares us for just such opposition.

I. The Perpetrators of Opposition - So who will be the opposing team? Where will this opposition be coming from? On the football field they wear a different

color Jersey, Not see on the field of life.' & often

**A. Opposition by Family + Friends - vs 21**  
the word friends could also be translated kin-  
smen as we see in vs 31. These that were near to  
the Lord. "Lay hold on him" to seize him.

These were people that were close to the Lord  
and in our eyes might be the least suspected  
for opposition. Yet they were some of the ones  
attempting to stop the Lord Jesus, John 7:5.

This is to be expected according to Jesus: Matt 10:34  
William Carey - Father of Modern missions was opp-  
osed by wife & bankrupted by friend Jonathan Edwards,  
after the Great awakening was used by church <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>preach</sup> his ideas.

**B. Opposition by Foes -** Never forget that  
there are some out and out right foes  
to you going forward in your service to  
God! The scribes accused Jesus of working  
his miracles by the power of Satan. This is  
a heart rending accusation that reminds  
us that there is a world that is against  
us. They are enemies of Christ. Venemous  
foes that strike with piercing words at a  
moments notice. John 16:2 Isn't that what  
we see today, where Christians are demonized.

"The Beast Movie Church Portrayed as evil.

**II. The Paths of Opposition -** We under-  
stand who the perpetrators of opposing are but how  
is it performed? What are the routes or paths  
of opposition. This text gives us some.

- 1) ...too often they look very much like us. Often the attacks of the opposition come as ambushes because we do not suspect them to attack us. Such is the case with the Lord Jesus who saw...
- 2) John 7:5 For neither did his brethren believe in him.
- 3) Matthew 10:34-37 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.
- 4) ...personally I have experienced stinging opposition from the closest of relatives over the cause of Christ. But never forget that you are not alone in your opposition. You are walking the way of the Cross, partaking in the fellowship of His sufferings.
- 5) John 16:2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. On April 18th, five Muslims entered a Christian publishing company and killed three believers in the southeastern province of Malatya in Turkey. Two of the Christian victims were Turks, converted from Islam, and the third was a German citizen who had lived in Turkey for 10 years - killed for their faith, and I can't even begin to enter into how they were killed for their faith. Four of the attackers admitted that the killings were motivated, listen, 'by both nationalistic and religious feelings'. They believed that they were doing God a service to kill His servants!

... do... offer your neck when I offer the sacrifice  
to the opposition come as supplices because we do not  
suspect them of attacking us. Such is the case with the truly  
honest who saw

... mid in evaded result in this rebellion for Poland. (5)  
beneath of some one I held the sword. (6) Without fear of  
beneath no epithet come for being base, but a sword  
for I am come to set a man to himself so that this is proper

1) **...to stay out of jail, but when you want to go all the way  
with the Lord in every area of life, then they want to  
stand on your foot.** One author writes: "If we set out to  
make a fortune, men will cheer us; if we are a fanatic for  
Jesus Christ, they will jeer us".

... obviously I had no objection from  
the horses of歷者 over the cause of Christ. But never  
forget that you are not alone in your opposition. You are  
walking this way of the Cross, speaking in the fellowship  
of this suffering

... 16. This is the way that you can do to the circumstances. And  
the time comes, that whenever you will think  
that the death cross can serve. On April 18th, the Mass  
celebrated a Christian baptismal ceremony and killed three  
pessimists in the anti-government province of Mysore in  
Turkey. Two of the Christians killed were Turks  
concerning your Jesus, and the third was a German citizen  
who lived in Turkey for 10 years - killed for their faith,  
and I caught several of them into their way. Were killed  
for Jesus faith. But to the specific question that  
killing was most important, they said, "We are  
honest people. They are honest people. They are honest people."

God is service to full His servants!

insight into this opposition.

A. An Accusation of Derangement - The family and friends said "He is beside himself." That means "He is out of his mind."

They are saying he's crazy. ch. chapter 3 alone we see the threat of death in vs 6, the strain of the needs upon him, the crowd in vs 8 could not even eat. These friends came to carry him away in the paddy wagon for his religion zeal. He may have been somewhat of an embarrassment to them. We have got to cool of this religion fanatic in the family. Usually your family wants you to get just enough religion to stay out of jail.

B. An Accusation of Demonism - The few

- did not accuse him of being insane but under direct demonic control. They say He cast out cleaners by Beelzebub which means the Lord of Dung Flies or of Filth, another name for Satan. They accused this man that went about only doing good of doing it under demonic power. They were so hard hearted toward the Lord that no matter the results they demonized him. Their accusation was from out right wickedness, his very <sup>so.</sup> ~~demonic~~, out right wickedness, which Jesus ~~respon~~.

III. The Pinnacle of Opposition -

The wickedness of their accusation brought out a haunting and terrifying reserve from the Lord Jesus. A reserve

that is often mis-understood we will try to

A. A Simple Parable vs 33-37 Jesus is giving a logical and simple parable to undermine their wicked accusation. Jesus ministry thus far has been clear as 1Jn 3:8  
Satan doesn't cast out demons, Satan desires to control men through demons ~~so we~~ not set them free! Jesus life was that of victory over Satan. He had the power to find the strong man.

B. A Sound Principal - What an important principle for our every day lives. In our home life, if we are at odds w each other it will crumble, in our church life, our church will not stand and go forward for God's glory if we are divided against ourselves.

C. A sobering pronouncement - vs 28-29 The Unpardonable Sin as it is called.. a lot of confusion. What is it? Blasphemy Holy Spirit? Attracting works of God to Satan? Look at the context. Jesus was being received by certain folk who were entertainig the idea that he is Messiah, The scribes refused and hardened their heart. In the wider context, John Baptist came and they rejected and killed, Jesus rejected and killed, Stephen. Acts 7:51 yea always resists the Holy Ghost, killed, Time + Time again they hardened their heart. Rejecting God, God's son + God's HG, it was the end of the line.

1) 1 John 3:8 ...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.